

**MARTIN PARK DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
PURITAN-MCNICHOLS-LIVERNOS-HIGHLAND PARK
c/o 16244 PRINCETON
DETROIT, MI 48221**

JOANN JACKSON
President

June 10, 2006

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Corresponding Secretary

CARRIE CLEAVER
Treasurer

BESSIE HERRING
Financial Secretary

Virgil K. Smith, Michigan State Representative
686 House Office Building
P. O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Representative Smith:

The Martin Park District Association represents over 1400 family households in the area bounded by Puritan to McNichols and Livernois to the Highland Park boundary. It has come to our attention that House Bill 6105 is being considered in the Local Government and Urban Policy Committee of the State Legislature. We want to go on record of being adamantly opposed to this Bill. It is inconceivable that the Legislature would even consider such a Bill. We the residents of the City of Detroit have supported the City Water and Sewage Commission for as long as this Department has existed. The Water and Sewage Department has been overseen by Federal Judge Fiekens for over twenty years. There is no valid reason for the introduction of legislation to remove the oversight of, and establishment of rates, fares, fees of a municipally owned and operated water system, and transferring that authority to the Public Service Commission.


The Public Service Commission is comprised of individuals appointed by the Governor and the terms of these Commissioners do not end with the term of the Governor. Thus, a three person Commission would have oversight and rate setting authority over services to a specific section of the State rather than for the entire State. This authority will apply to the City of Detroit alone and no other municipal water system in the State. Under Public Act 3 of 1939, the Public Service Commission is vested with the power and jurisdiction to regulate public utilities, except for municipally owned utilities. Detroit also owns and operates the Detroit Public Lighting Department. Why is not public lighting in Detroit not included in House Bill 6105?

The motivation for the introduction of this piece of legislation is perfectly clear. At best it is a

back door method of taking control of Detroit's water system from local control of the Detroit City Council. At the worst it is another manifestation of the racist attitudes of Legislators in areas outside of the City of Detroit.

Again, we strongly urge you to speak on our behalf and let the Local Government and Urban Policy Committee know that we oppose this legislation in the strongest terms possible and that we are very much aware of the rationale for its introduction, as flimsy as that rationale may be. If you need to reach me I can be contacted at (313) 863-6597.

Very Sincerely,


Joann Jackson, President
Martin Park District Association
c/o 16244 Princeton
Detroit, MI 48221

cc: B. Nichols, Corresponding Sec.

**LODGE ♦ DAVISON ♦ LINWOOD ♦ OAKMAN
L. D. L. O. BLOCK CLUB ASSOCIATION**

2477 La Belle Street
Detroit, Michigan 48238

State Representative
Virgil K. Smith
District 7
P. O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

June 14, 2006

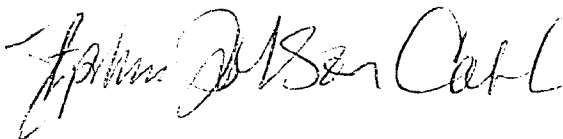
Dear Representative Smith,

I am writing this letter in opposition of House Bill 6105, which would transfer the control of the Detroit Water System to the Public Service Commission.

I am the President of the Lodge, Davison, Linwood, and Oakman (LDLO) Association of Block Clubs for homeowners and renters. Our organization represents 500 homes within this area. We felt that it was urgent for us to relay to your office our concern and vehement opposition to House Bill 6105 and any other *take over* attempts of Detroit's water board.

Please relay our opinion regarding this matter to your colleagues.

Sincerely.



Stephanie Johnson-Cobb;
President, LDLO
2477 La Belle St,
Detroit, MI 48238



June 6, 2006

The Honorable Tory Rocca
Committee on Local Government and Urban Policy
Michigan House of Representatives
State of Michigan
Via e-mail <http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

Dear Mr. Rocca:

On behalf of my neighborhood association, Palmer Woods Association, located in Detroit, I ask that you rescind House Bill 6105 and permit the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to function as it has in the past to set its own rates.

We have been closely associated with the DWSD for several years as it has been instrumental in restoring our water and sewer lines in the neighborhood. I am confident in that department's ability to sustain its own power and jurisdiction.

Thank you for your consideration and wisdom in allowing municipalities to govern themselves.

Sincerely,

Nancy Galster
President
19222 Burlington Drive
Detroit, MI 48203

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Bagley Community Council, Inc.

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VICE PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

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June 7, 2006

Virgil Smith
State Representative, 7th District
686 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Mr. Smith

The Bagley Community Council, Inc. which represents the community border by Outer Drive (North), Six Mile Rd (South), Wyoming (West) and Livernois (EAST), **does not support HB 6105 which would give the Michigan Public Service Commission jurisdiction to regulate all rates, fares, fees and charges of any water or sewerage system that provides water supply service and/or sewerage service to more than twenty-five percent of the population of the state.** We strongly oppose this legislation based on the impact that it would have on our community and the city of Detroit. This bill singles Detroit out from all other cities in Michigan and eliminates local control.

We understand that supporters of this bill argue that the Michigan Public Service Commission offers an unbiased group to regulate the water and sewer services, but we disagree. The Public Service Commission is comprised of individuals appointed by the governor of Michigan, and this appointment does not end with the term of the governor, **but upon the retirement of the individual appointed.** This is one reason we oppose House Bill 6105.

Sincerely,

Alicia Biggers,

Recording Secretary

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Oakman Boulevard Community Association

" A Historic District

June 7, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

The Oakman Blvd Community Association (OBCA) opposes the passage of HB 6105 which would effectively transfer control of the Detroit Water Department to the Michigan Public Service Commission. We are unclear on the need for this change, since the Detroit Water Department has been recognized as one of the best facilities of its type in the country.

This bill is written specifically with the intention of taking over the Detroit Water Department. It is troubling that the only time the City of Detroit is singled out is when one of our assets is coveted.

More importantly, HB 6105 is completely at odds with local control and home rule. It is unfair, unnecessary and we strongly oppose its passage.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Earl Smith, CFE CIFI
President, Oakman Blvd Community Association
Chair, Detroit Historic Neighborhood Coalition
2715 Oakman Court
Detroit, MI 48238
313-883-8116 (Home)
248-320-0902 (Cell)

**LODGE ♦ DAVISON ♦ LINWOOD ♦ OAKMAN
L. D. L. O. BLOCK CLUB ASSOCIATION**

2477 La Belle Street
Detroit, Michigan 48238

State Representative

Virgil K. Smith

District 7

P. O. Box 30014

Lansing, MI 48909

June 14, 2006

Dear Representative Smith,

I am writing this letter in opposition of House Bill 6105, which would transfer the control of the Detroit Water System to the Public Service Commission.

I am the President of the Lodge, Davison, Linwood, and Oakman (LDLO) Association of Block Clubs for homeowners and renters. Our organization represents 500 homes within this area. We felt that it was urgent for us to relay to your office our concern and vehement opposition to House Bill 6105 and any other *take over* attempts of Detroit's water board.

Please relay our opinion regarding this matter to your colleagues.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Johnson-Cobb;

President, LDLO

2477 La Belle St,

Detroit, MI 48238

RUSSELL WOODS/SULLIVAN AREA ASSOCIATION
4045 Cortland
Detroit, Michigan 48204

Wednesday, June 07, 2006

Virgil K. Smith
Michigan House of Representatives
District 7

Dear Representative Smith:

The passage of House Bill 6105 would give the Michigan Public Service Commission jurisdiction to regulate all rates, fares, fees and charges of any water or sewerage system that provides water supply service and/or sewerage service to more than twenty-five percent of the population of the state. We strongly oppose this legislation based on the impact that it would have on the city of Detroit. This bill singles Detroit out from all other cities in Michigan and eliminates local control.

Supporters of this bill argue that the Michigan Public Service Commission offers an unbiased group to regulate the water and sewer services, but we disagree. The Public Service Commission is comprised of individuals appointed by the governor of Michigan, and this appointment does not end with the term of the governor, but upon the retirement of the individual appointed. For these reason we oppose House Bill 6105.

Sincerely,

Jacque Nickerson
Vice-President



Community Association
P.O. Box 21483
Detroit MI 48221

June 7, 2006

Michigan House of Representatives
686 House Office Building
P. O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 30014

John Autrey
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Betty Davis Ed. D
Margit Ervin
Yvonne Evans
Lenora Koytor
Zora Muhammed
Patrick Murray
Anthony Sims
Peter Wolf
Raymond Wornack

Re: House Bill 6105

To Whom It May Concern,

We are the Community Association that represents 1,250 homes within the boundaries of 6 Mile Road, 7 Mile Road, Livernois and Parkside in the City of Detroit. Historically, we consistently monitor issues that affect the quality of life in our community and the City. For this reason we are extremely concerned about the proposed amendment which adds Section 6q to House Bill 6105. This bill empowers the Michigan Public Service Commission to regulate all rates, fares, fees and charges of any water or sewerage system that provides water supply service and/or sewerage service to more than twenty-five percent of the population of the State.

We vehemently oppose this legislation based on the negative impact that it would have on the City of Detroit.

UDCA Hotline
13-341-UDCA
Web site address
www.udcaonline.com

Sincerely,

John Autrey
John Autrey
President